

REMARKS

In this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 30, 39, 42, 43, and 46-49 to more appropriately define the present invention and to correct any alleged improper multiple dependencies. In making each of the amendments, Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

In the Office Action dated February 19, 2004, with a period for response extending through March 19, 2004, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between the following groups of claims:

Group I - Claims 20-29, 40-41, and 44-45, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to an inspection system;

Group II - Claims 30-38, 42, and 46, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to pattern recognition using the edge measurement; and

Group III - Claims 39, 43, and 47, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to an inspection system using the optical properties.

Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute the group characterized by the Examiner as Group I, claims 20-29, 40-41, and 44-45. Further, in the Office Action, the examiner stated that "claims 48-50 are improper form of multiple dependent claims." Office Action at page 3. In response, Applicant has amended claims 48 and 49 to depend from "claim 20 or 22." Claims 20 and 22 are not multiple dependent claims. Therefore, Applicant submits that each of the claims 48-50 are proper multiple dependent claim, and respectfully requests the Examiner to join claims 48-50 to the elected Group I.

Furthermore, in view of the dependencies of present claims 30-39 (depend, directly or indirectly from elected claim 20), claims 42 and 43 (depend from elected claim 40), and claims 46 and 47 (depend from elected claim 44), Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to examine all the pending claims in the present application.

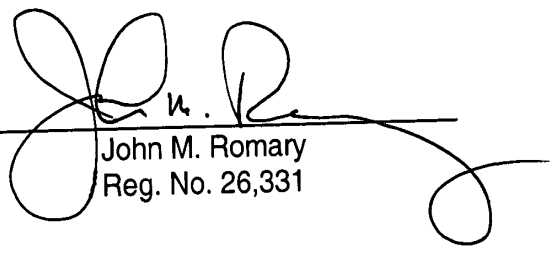
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 18, 2004

By: _____


John M. Romary
Reg. No. 26,331